



# 16/Amold, D  
H. Morgan  
9/3/98

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Continuing Patent Application of )  
Toshiaki Kanemitsu et al ) Art Unit: 3725  
Appln. No. : 08/669,313 ) Ex: L. Larson  
Filed : July 8, 1996 )  
For : SHEET METAL MEMBER HAVING )  
AN ANNULAR PERIPHERAL WALL )  
AND A METHOD OF THICKENING )  
AN ANNULAR PERIPHERAL WALL )  
OF THE SHEET METAL MEMBER )  
(AS AMENDED) )

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AUG 25 1998  
GROUP 3200

RESPONSE

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are submitted pursuant to the provisions of 37 CFR 1.111 in response to the Office Action of May 22, 1998.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claim 5 as follows:

Sub 5. (Four Times Amended) A method of forming a thickened annular peripheral wall of a sheet metal member, comprising the steps of: holding the sheet metal member and forming a base plate [of the sheet metal member] and [forming] a flange-shaped portion connected integrally by a stepped portion with an outer periphery of the base plate; inserting the base plate, the stepped portion and at least a part of the flanged-shaped portion between a circular bottom pattern tool and a circular top pattern tool;

D)